

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)  
TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

REPORT NO.

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 18 May to 21 June 1952

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 28 July 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS 25X1 25X1

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SOURCE

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1. During the period from 9 to 21 June 1952, the Infanterie Kaserne near the Rathenow-Nord railroad station in Rathenow (N 53/E 15) quartered about 200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About two thirds of them had motor transport insignia and one third had artillery insignia. Most of the training activity was driving practice. Motor vehicles in the billeting area

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2. During the period from 9 to 21 June, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Preitscheid Strasse quartered about 150 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Troops receiving meals on 12 June included 2 groups of 40 men each and 1 group of 60 men. Other trucks were seen leaving the installation. (1)

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3. During the period from 9 to 21 June, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner Strasse housed a small rear detail of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Prime movers, each towing a 152-mm field howitzer, were in the billeting area. (1)

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4. Between 14 and 21 June, the Soviet repair shop at the intersection of Friedrich Ebert Ring and Friedrich Lange Strasse was shipped toward Frankfurt/Oder (O 53/V 63) on seven trains. Numerous trucks, and other trucks hauled tools, lathes and billeting equipment from the quarters to the main railroad station. A wooden shed in the repair shop area was torn down. On 21 June, only a guard detail of four men wearing blue-bordered black epaulets was noticed at the repair shop. (2)

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5. commanding officer of the troops was one Lieutenant-Colonel Panishak (phonetic spelling).

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CLASSIFICATION

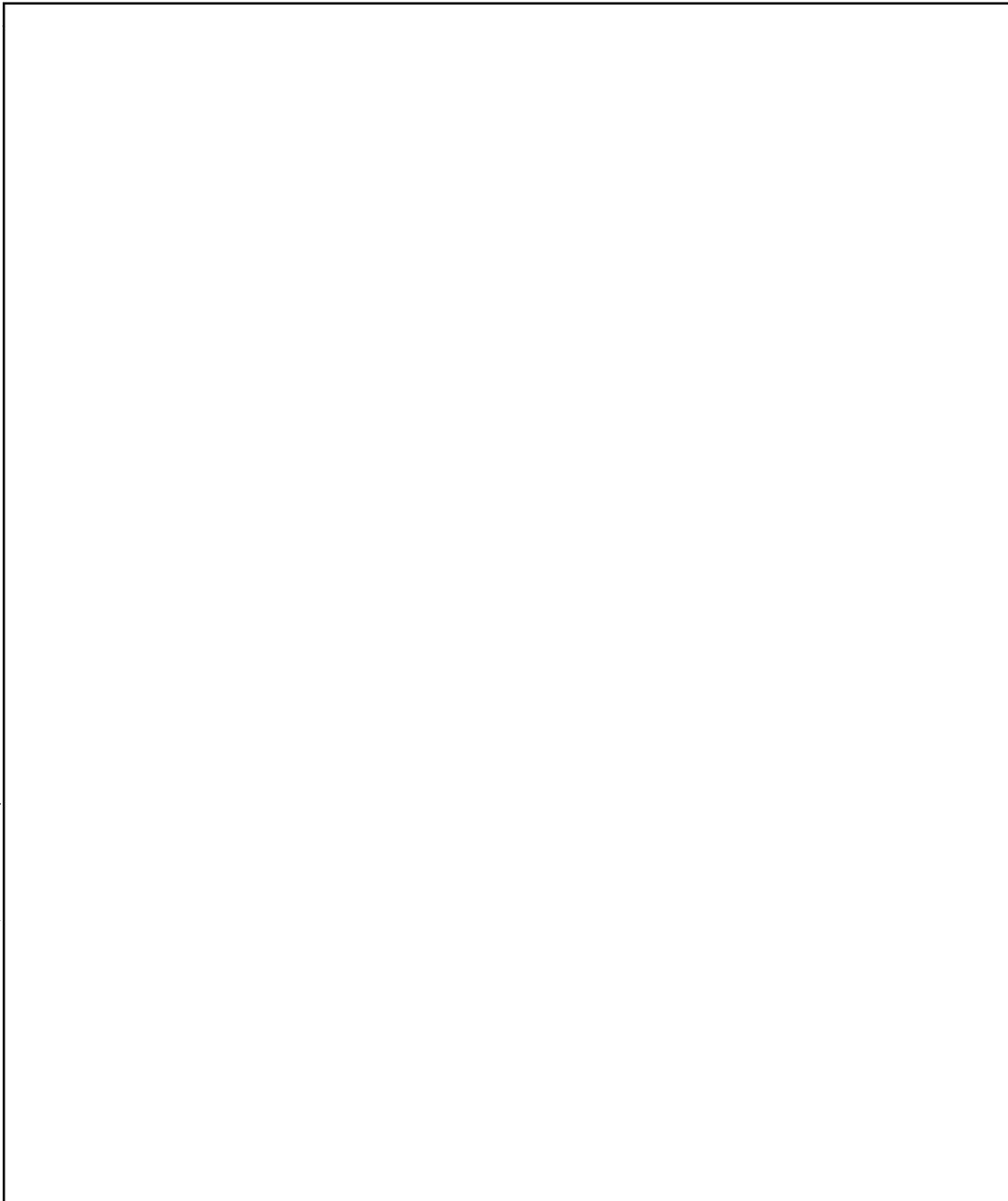
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6. On 12 June, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Berliner Strasse was occupied by about 100 troops. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Several soldiers were at formation drill in the barracks yard. Garages and gun sheds were vacant.

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7. On 13 June, the Infanterie Kaserne and Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse quartered a total of about 150 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. Little training activity or driving practice was noticed. [REDACTED]

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8. The transfer of the repair shop on Friedrich Ebert Ring, intersection of Friedrich Lange Strasse began on 13 June. Part of the repair shop trucks had already been loaded on 13 and 14 June. About 45 soldiers were still in the billeting area on 14 June. (2)

9. On 23 May, elements of a battalion in the 410th Kaserne on Bahnhofstrasse moved to the Altengrabow (M 53/2 00) troop training grounds. The unit numbered 130 men, was led by Major Tymanov (fnu) and left on trucks [REDACTED]

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The following supply trips from the 410th Kaserne were made by truck [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] with trailer during the period from 29 May to 5 June 1952:

29 May. Shipment of 2,350 loaves of bread from the army bakery at Albertshain to Altengrabow.

30 May. Shipment of 60 sacks of flour containing 110 kg each from the mill at Ziesar to Altengrabow warehouse.

31 May. Shipment of 34 sacks of 100 kg of flour each from the mill at Milow, and rice and cereals from the warehouse near the Altstadt railroad station in Brandenburg/Havel, to Altengrabow, warehouse.

5 June. Shipment of 800 loaves of bread, cereals and PX articles from Albertshain to Altengrabow warehouse. (1) It was determined that the warehouse in Altengrabow was located near the cooperative stores in the northwestern sector of the troop training grounds. A sergeant working in the warehouse stated on 5 June that the battalion from the 410th Kaserne was no longer at the training grounds but had already moved beyond Magdeburg (M 51/D 69). [REDACTED] there was considerably less activity in Camp Altengrabow on 1 June than was observed there in the preceding years at that time.

10. On 18 May, 32 factory-new motor vehicles arrived by rail at the Rathenow railroad station and were consigned to the unit in the 410th Kaserne. [REDACTED]

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In exchange, 32 old trucks were delivered to a Volkspolizei unit in Kietz on 27 and 28 May.

11. On 13 June, the Infanterie Kaserne at Nordbahnhof quartered about 35 officers and about 180 EM, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse, 35 officers and 200 EM, and the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner Strasse, about 40 officers and 230 EM. The former German officers' billets between the Infanterie Kaserne and Pionier Kaserne housed about 120 uniformed women. After 9 June, the rear details of all barracks installations were engaged in training at Semlin Heath. The practice included training with 120-mm field howitzers which had been hauled to the place by prime movers [REDACTED] submachine gun firing, throwing of hand grenades, entrenching practice and surveying duty. (1) New target ranges were under construction near the former German Marinesiedlung at Semlin Heath during the period from 7 to 13 June. The old target ranges were to be torn down.

12. On 11 and 12 June, a total of eight tank cars with gasoline arrived at the Nordbahnhof. They were drained into six tank trucks, including [REDACTED]

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[redacted], which went to the Pioneer Kaserne on Rudolf  
Breitscheid Strasse.

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13. During the period from 7 to 13 June, it was repeatedly observed that motor vehicles [redacted] allegedly, of British make, hauled radio equipment from the repair shop in the former Mitsch and Guenther plant to the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Senliner Strasse. (2)

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Comments.

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- (1) The observation of rear details in the three barracks installations as reported in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 and 11, confirm until 21 June 1952 the units of the 6th Arty Div as being absent from the post for practices at Altengrabow. See [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] The battalion, [redacted] presumably is the 61st  
Observ Bn of the IV Arty Corps in the Rathenow Kaserne. Elements of the battalion possibly moved to Altengrabow at the end of May 1952. This conclusion is confirmed  
[redacted] the barracks installation to have been occupied  
only lightly in mid-June. [redacted] 25X1
- (2) The transfer of the motor vehicle and electrical repair shop can be considered completed on 21 June 1952. Reasons for this transfer are not known. The two troop shipments from Rathenow to Luckenwalde on 16 and 18 June 1952 may have been in connection with this transfer. [redacted] Further information is required whether shipments went to the area east of Berlin. 25X1
- (3) [redacted] confirms the Hq 6th Arty Div from Rathenow until 1 June 1952. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] confirms the 65th Mort Brig (US) from Rathenow until 1 June 1952. [redacted] 25X1

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(4)

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